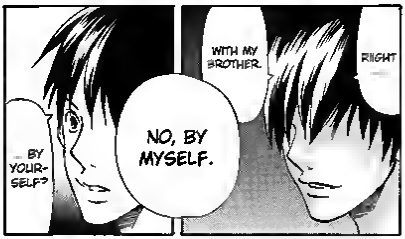
CHAPTER 19
SHIRAISHI KAEDE 2
TETSUO!

KAEDE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

TETSUO!
YOU NEVER CAWL ME, AN' I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D EVAH MEET!
OH MY GOD!

HERE TAH HAVE SOME FUN FOR GOLDEN WEEK

HEY TETSUO


...BY YOURSELF?
NO, BY MYSELF.
WITH MY BROTHER.
RIGHT

WANNA HANG OUT TOGETHER?!

HANG...
OUT?

TETSUO
DID YA REALLY BECOME A HOST?
HAH?
HEARD IT FROM KATSURAGI-KUN
I THOUGHT YA'D LOOK MORE LIKE A HOST BUT YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT!

NO... Y'SEE
EXCEPT, YA LOOK NICER NOW
YOU ACTUA-LLY
LOOK KINDA HOT.

HOLY FUCK DO I HATE THIS CHICK...
YOU'RE 'BOUT TO EAT THEN GO WORK, RIGHT
TAKE ME SOME-WHERE GOOD!
SOMEPLACE YA CAN'T FIND IN KOCHI!
SHE'S THE TYPE OF GIRL WHO SAYS THAT HORSESHIT WITHOUT THINKIN'!
DON'T YUH DARE FALL FOR HER TRAP!
YUH SHOULD KNOW THAT BY NOW!

LIKE COMING HERE OVER AND OVER AGAIN
AND THIS PLACE IS SO NICE THAT ME AND THE BOSS
LOVE
2ND FLOOR
YOU GODDIT..
I'LL TAKE YUH SUMPLACE REEAL NICE...
HELL IF I KNOW ONE...
SO SOME KIND OF TRENDY RESTAU-RANT, SHE'S SAYING?
A PLACE YOU CAN'T FIND IN KOCHI?
C'MON WON'T CHA?
...
IT'S MY FIRST TIME COMIN' HERE TO SHIMO-KITAGAWA

OH
TECCHAN, RIGHT THIS WAY.
THAT'S RIGHT! JUST YOUR NORMAL, ORDI-NARY BAR!

YOU THOUGHT I WAS TAKING YOU TO AN ITALIAN OR FRENCH PLACE, DIDN'T YOU? AND I ORDERED STUFF ONLY OLD GUYS WOULD EAT!
HERE
YOUR LIVER PATE IS READY
WELL?
YUH HATE ME NOW? D'YAH?

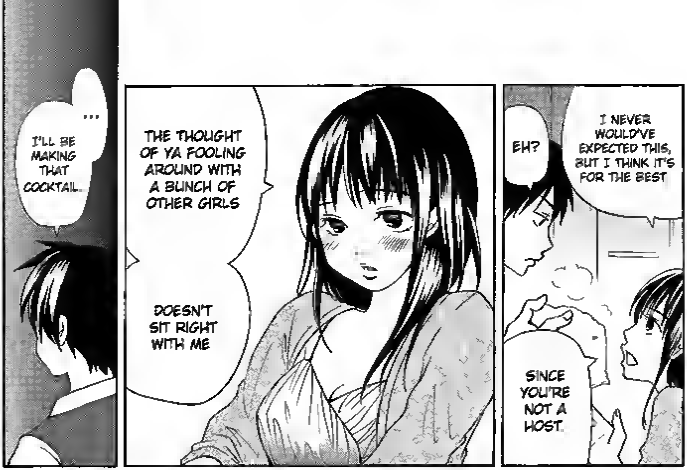
HUH?
SO UM... THIS IS A GIRL I USED TO KNOW BACK BEFORE I MOVED HERE.
NICE TO MEET YOU!
ARATA DIDN'T COME WITH YOU THIS TIME?
HI THERE
ALL RIGHT, LET ME TAKE YOU TO THE BACK.

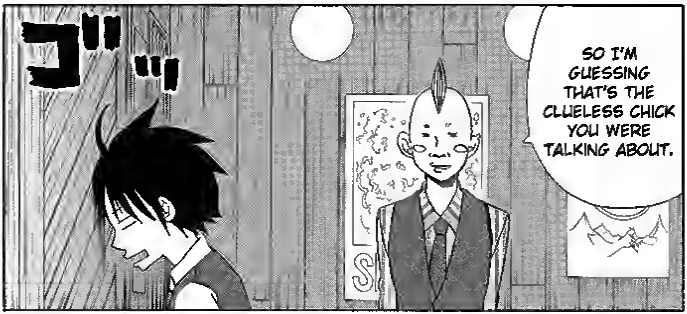
MAIN COURSE
SALADS

THIS IS A NICE PLACE! ARE YA FRIENDS WITH THE OWNER? YA GO HERE OFTEN?
GOD, I FUCK-ING HATE HER..
DIDN'T THOSE MANUALS SAY YOU SHOULD AVOID GOING TO BARS ON FIRST DATES OR SUMPTHIN' ..?
TASTES GREAT!
NO, THIS ISN'T A DATE.
AH!
DID I UNTHINKINGLY GET MY HOPES UP YET AGAIN?
FUUCK!
WHAT'S WITH YA, TETSUO?
I WAS TRYIN' TO SHOW HER A BAD TIME, BUT GOT MY HOPES UP LIKE SOME MORAWN!
NO, WHAT'S WITH YOU?
DIDJA REALLY COME HERE ALONE?
FOR FUN?
YAH
YAH
SO WHY
DID I TELLYA I WAS LIVIN' HERE?
PICK SHIMO-KITAZA-WA?
I HEARD
THAT I CAN FIND A REALLY GOOD PANCAKE PLACE AROUND HERE.

THEN I HAPPENED TAH RUN INTO YA WHEN I GOT BACK TO THE STATION.
I READ ABOUT IT INNA MAGAZINE
BUT GOT LOST ON THE WAY.
...
PAN-CAKES?
HOLD ON, I'M COMING WITH YA'
AH! FOR WORK?!
I'M GONNA LEAVE
I'M A DUMBASS, A RETARD, AND A HUGE, COCKSUCK-ING LOSER
FOR EVER WONDERING FOR A SECOND IF SHE CAME HERE TO SEE ME.
WE'RE SUP-POSED TA BE HANG-ING OUT!
SO WHY'DJA LET YOURSELF GET DUPED AGAIN?
YUH KNEW SHE WAS THIS TYPE OF WOMAN! YUH FUCKIN' KNEW!
HAPPENED TO...
AH
RIGHT
I WAS THINKING OF GOING THERE TODAY.
NO, YUH CAN'T
IF YOU ARE GOING TO YOUR BAR, MAY I ACCOMPANY YOU?
Y'SEE, I'M NOT A HOS
GREAT... MORE COMPLI-CATION.
AH, HE WORKS WITH YOU? HOSTS ARE SO HOT!
MR. SWIMSUIT! YOU WERE HERE ALL ALONG?
AND IN STREET CLOTHES

I SEE.
SO YOU KNEW TETSUO WHEN YOU WERE KIDS
SINCE I'M TETUO'S FRIEND, THAT MAKES THE BOTH OF US PALS AS WELL!
YAY! I MADE A TOKYO PAL!
ARE WE REALLY GOING TO THE BAR?
ALL 3 OF US?
SHIKOSHI
WHY NOT?
IS THERE A REASON WE CAN'T?
NOT REALLY...
JUST THAT MY BAR ISN'T A HOST CLUB
GIRLS BAR
ガールズバー
GIRLS BAR?
...
SO THIS IS WHERE YA WORK.
WOW
SO WHAT ARE YOU DRINKING?
WE SERVE NON-ALCOHOLIC COCKTAILS, JUST SO YOU KNOW
OH? THEN THAT!


...
I'LL BE MAKING THAT COCKTAIL.
THE THOUGHT OF YA FOOLING AROUND WITH A BUNCH OF OTHER GIRLS
DOESN'T SIT RIGHT WITH ME
EH?
I NEVER WOULD'VE EXPECTED THIS, BUT I THINK IT'S FOR THE BEST
SINCE YOU'RE NOT A HOST.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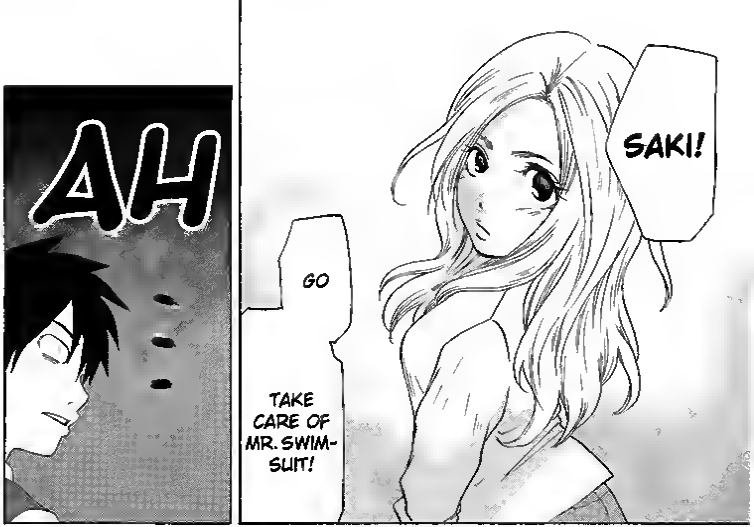
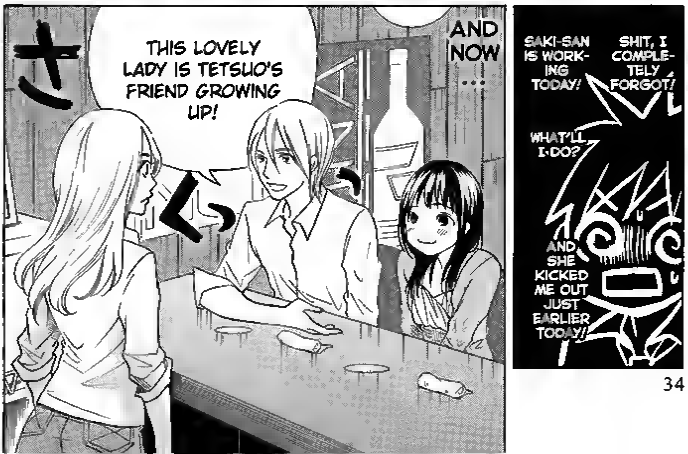
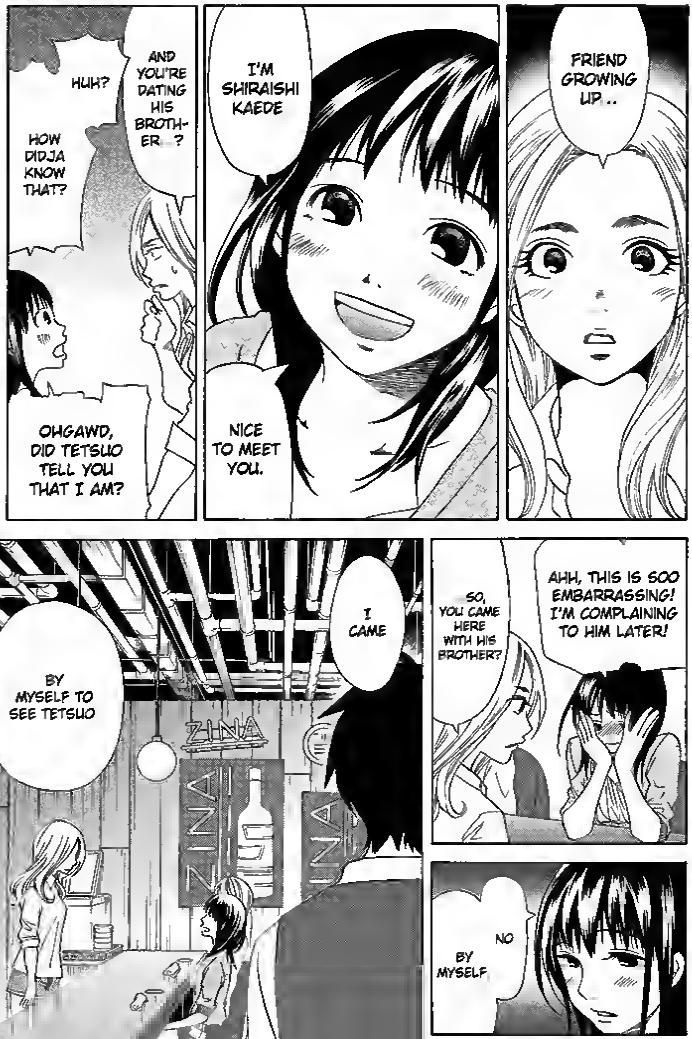
SO I'M GUESSING THAT'S THE CLUELESS CHICK YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT.

AH FOR-GOT
AANYWAYS, WE NEED TO GET TO WORK! A GIRL HASN'T BEEN ASSIGNED TO MR. SWIMSUIT YET!
MIO TOLD ME
SO, WHO'S THIS "VIRGIN" OF YOURS?
ガラ
YEAH? AND SO WHAT?!
WHICH MAKES MAKOTO THE SCHEMER, RIGHT?

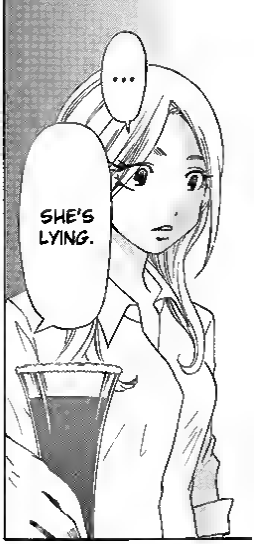

AH
SAKI!
GO
TAKE CARE OF MR. SWIM-SUIT!

WAIT A MINUTE!
HEY!
SPIN
RIGHT ON IT.
AND YOU, MAKE THE DRINKS.


AND NOW ...
THIS LOVELY LADY IS TETSUO'S FRIEND GROWING UP!
SAKI-SAN IS WORK-ING TODAY!
SHIT, I COMPLE-TELY FORGOT!
WHAT'LL I DO?
AND SHE KICKED ME OUT JUST EARLIER TODAY!


FRIEND GROWING UP..
I'M SHIRAISHI KAEDE
NICE TO MEET YOU.
AND YOU'RE DATING HIS BROTHER...?
HUH?
HOW DIDJA KNOW THAT?
OHGAWD, DID TETSUO TELL YOU THAT I AM?
AHH, THIS IS SOO EMBARRASSING! I'M COMPLAINING TO HIM LATER!
SO, YOU CAME HERE WITH HIS BROTHER?
NO
BY MYSELF
I CAME
BY MYSELF TO SEE TETSUO
ZINA
ZINA
ZINA

YOU CAME TO EAT AT A FLIPPIN' PANCAKE HOUSE
BUT I ENDED UP NOT EATING THERE!
WOW! HOW CUTE ♡
BLANC-BEC MANTEAU
WHAT'S IT CALLED?
GEEZ, TETSUO, YA KNOW HOW TO MAKE THAT?


...
SHE'S LYING.

LOOK
ME AND KAEDE MET TOTALLY BY ACCIDENT
THERE'S NOTHING MORE TO THE STORY
DO YOU REALLY NEED TO EXPLAIN YOURSELF?

AND OLD FRIEND DECIDED TO DROP BY AND VISIT, RIGHT?

SAKI-SAN
COME HERE

...
EXCUSE US.

...
NO
ふー

BUT YOUR EXCUSE-MAKING MEANS YOUR FEELINGS ARE RATTLED.
YES!
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME ANYWAY
YOU KNOW WHAT, FORGET IT.
BYE NOW.

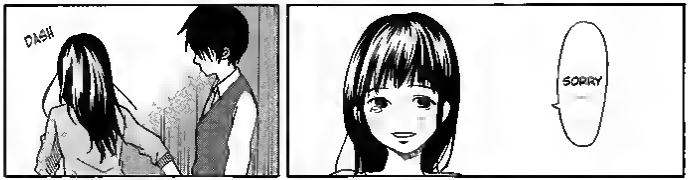
"BYE NOW"?

WOULD IT'VE BEEN BETTER IF I DIDN'T COME?

FLINCH
UH
UM...

HEY!
WAIT!
SAKI-SAN!

YAH
YOU RUIN EVERY-THING...
AN' I MEAN EVERY-THING!
THANKS TO YUH, MY LIFE'S DOWN THE TOILET!
NOW GEDD-OUT OF HERE!
YOU'VE RUINED IT!
GO!
GET THE HELL OUTTA MY LIFE!


SORRY
DASH

YOU SURE
SHE'S GOOD
YOU DON'T WANNA ESCORT HER?
SHE'S NOT A KID ANYMORE.
WELL, SHIMOKITA'S FULL OF DRUNKS AT NIGHT, AND THEY WILL HIT ON A LONE GIRL LIKE HER.
THEY'LL WHAT?
THEY'LL HIT ON HER, THEN SHE'LL END UP AT SOME GUY'S PLACE.

THE CLUELESS CHICK'S ASKING FOR HELP
THERE YOU SEE?
A TEXT?
BZZZZ
I'LL COVER FOR YOU AS LONG AS YOU TREAT ME TO A PINK SALON
YOU'RE FREE TO LEAVE EARLY SINCE IT'S A SLOW NIGHT!
...
TREAT ME TO A SOAPLAND!
GOOD!
HERE'S YOUR STUFF
BOSS!
I'M LEAVING EARLY!
SOAP ...?
RIGHT!
MY BRO-THER?
22 35
MAY 5 MONDAY
LINE
SUGIHARA SHINYA CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
SLIDE TO UNLOCK
LOOM
LOOM
LOOM
LOOM
LOOM
SO GOOD!
IT'S GOOD TO BE YOUNG
GOOD LUCK!
DASH

BONK
SHAD-DAP!
GOOD THING I DODGED IT
THEY DON'T BREAK APART IN REAL LIFE!
HITTING PEOPLE WITH WHISKEY BOTTLES ONLY WORKS IN ACTION FLICKS
DAM-MIT
SAKI!
BASH
WHA?!
GWAH!
IF THIS WERE A DRAMA
KAEDE?!
I'D PROBA-BLY BE OUT
LOOKING FOR HER FOR NEARLY AN HOUR IN THE RAIN SOAKING WET.
KAEDE!
THEN I'D FIND HER
IN AN EMOTIO-NALLY CLIMATIC SCENE...
WOW
THAT WAS ALMOST TOO QUICK

IT'S REAL CLOSE BY
AL-RIGHT
I'LL HEAR YUH OUT AT HOME
WAAAAAAAH
I HAD TO!
BUT I...
REALLY RUN AWAY FROM HOME?
...DID YOU

YEAH.
WELCOME TO MY REALITY.
I THINK HE'S CHEATIN' ON ME...
WE HAD A FIGHT
BUT...
SHE YANKS MY CHAIN EVERY WHICH WAY FROM TUESDAY
AND THIS HAPPENS.
HMM?
WELP, THAT'S MY BROTHER FOR YUH.
THIS IS YOU GUYS'S PROBLEM TO DEAL WITH.
LEAVE ME OUT OF IT.
YAH...
I WONDER IF WE'RE GONNA END UP BREAK-ING UP...
YOU THINK SO..
HOW MANY TIMES
MUST I ALLOW HER TO PLAY ME LIKE A CHEAP ACCOR-DION?

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF YA WERE MY BOYFRIEND, TETSUO.
CRACK
AND RIGHT THEN
SOMETHING SNAPPED INSIDE OF ME.

東京DTED

I WANT TO
FORGET
ABOUT
YOU

THE SECOND OF FOUR SONGS THAT CARRIED ME BUT DID NOT APPEAR IN THE BEGINNING OF THE CHAPTER.

SAKANACTION'S "AOI"

THE QUICK, AIRY PACE OF THIS SONG HELPED ME WRITE THE FIRST CHAPTER. THE REASON WHY THAT CHAPTER WASN'T TOO DARK AND HEAVY WAS THANKS TO THAT SONG.

I LOVE THIS TRACK, AND IT WAS EVEN COOLER HEARING IT LIVE.